

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

ROBERT BERG, Individually and On Behalf)	
of All Others Similarly Situated,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	Case No. 1:17-cv-12034
v.)	
)	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
EXA CORPORATION, STEPHEN)	
REMONDI, ROBERT BURKE, MARK)	CLASS ACTION
FUSCO, WAYNE MACKIE, JOHN)	
WILLIAM PODUSKA, JOHN J. SHIELDS,)	
III, DASSAULT SYSTEMES SIMULIA)	
CORP., and 3DS ACQUISITION 3 CORP.,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Plaintiff, by his undersigned attorneys, for this complaint against defendants, alleges upon personal knowledge with respect to himself, and upon information and belief based upon, *inter alia*, the investigation of counsel as to all other allegations herein, as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This action stems from a proposed transaction announced on September 28, 2017 (the “Proposed Transaction”), pursuant to which Exa Corporation (“Exa” or the “Company”) will be acquired by Dassault Systemes Simulia Corp. (“Parent”) and 3DS Acquisition 3 Corp. (“Merger Sub,” and together with Parent “Dassault”) through a tender offer currently set to expire on November 9, 2017 (the “Tender Offer”).

2. On September 27, 2017, Exa’s Board of Directors (the “Board” or “Individual Defendants”) caused the Company to enter into an agreement and plan of merger (the “Merger Agreement”) with Dassault. Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, shareholders of

Exa will receive \$24.25 in cash for each share of Exa common stock.

3. On October 12, 2017, defendants filed a Solicitation/Recommendation Statement (the “Solicitation Statement”) with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) in connection with the Proposed Transaction.

4. The Solicitation Statement omits material information with respect to the Proposed Transaction, which renders the Solicitation Statement false and misleading. Accordingly, plaintiff alleges herein that defendants violated Sections 14(e), 14(d), and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “1934 Act”) in connection with the Solicitation Statement.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has jurisdiction over all claims asserted herein pursuant to Section 27 of the 1934 Act because the claims asserted herein arise under Sections 14(e), 14(d), and 20(a) of the 1934 Act and Rule 14a-9.

6. This Court has jurisdiction over defendants because each defendant is either a corporation that conducts business in and maintains operations within this District, or is an individual with sufficient minimum contacts with this District so as to make the exercise of jurisdiction by this Court permissible under traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

7. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because a substantial portion of the transactions and wrongs complained of herein occurred in this District.

PARTIES

8. Plaintiff is, and has been continuously throughout all times relevant hereto, the owner of Exa common stock.

9. Defendant Exa is a Delaware corporation and maintains its principal executive offices at 55 Network Drive, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. Exa's common stock is traded on the NasdaqGM under the ticker symbol "EXA."

10. Defendant Stephen Remondi ("Remondi") is a co-founder of Exa and has served as a director, President, and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") since 1999.

11. Defendant Robert Burke ("Burke") has served as a director of Exa since June 2014.

12. Defendant Mark Fusco ("Fusco") has served as a director of Exa since August 2015.

13. Defendant Wayne Mackie ("Mackie") has served as a director of Exa since February 2008.

14. Defendant John William Poduska ("Poduska") has served as a director of Exa since 1994.

15. Defendant John J. Shields, III ("Shields") has served as a director of Exa since 1996 and as Chairman of the Board of Exa since 1999.

16. The defendants identified in paragraphs 10 through 15 are collectively referred to herein as the "Individual Defendants."

17. Defendant Parent is a Rhode Island corporation and a party to the Merger Agreement.

18. Defendant Merger Sub is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent and a party to the Merger Agreement.

CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

19. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action on behalf of himself and the other

public stockholders of Exa (the “Class”). Excluded from the Class are defendants herein and any person, firm, trust, corporation, or other entity related to or affiliated with any defendant.

20. This action is properly maintainable as a class action.

21. The Class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. As of September 27, 2017, there were approximately 15,100,818 shares of Exa common stock outstanding, held by hundreds, if not thousands, of individuals and entities scattered throughout the country.

22. Questions of law and fact are common to the Class, including, among others: (i) whether defendants violated the 1934 Act; and (ii) whether defendants will irreparably harm plaintiff and the other members of the Class if defendants’ conduct complained of herein continues.

23. Plaintiff is committed to prosecuting this action and has retained competent counsel experienced in litigation of this nature. Plaintiff’s claims are typical of the claims of the other members of the Class and plaintiff has the same interests as the other members of the Class. Accordingly, plaintiff is an adequate representative of the Class and will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class.

24. The prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications that would establish incompatible standards of conduct for defendants, or adjudications that would, as a practical matter, be dispositive of the interests of individual members of the Class who are not parties to the adjudications or would substantially impair or impede those non-party Class members’ ability to protect their interests.

25. Defendants have acted, or refused to act, on grounds generally applicable to the

Class as a whole, and are causing injury to the entire Class. Therefore, final injunctive relief on behalf of the Class is appropriate.

SUBSTANTIVE ALLEGATIONS

Background of the Company and the Proposed Transaction

26. Exa develops, markets, sells, and supports software products, and provides professional services for simulation-driven design.

27. Leading manufacturers use the Company's fluid flow, heat transfer, and acoustic simulation solutions to optimize the performance of their products, reduce product development costs, and improve the efficiency of their design and engineering processes.

28. Exa currently focuses primarily on OEMs and suppliers in the transportation market, including the automotive, commercial vehicle, off-highway equipment, train, and aerospace industries.

29. Over 100 manufacturers use the Company's products and services, including 13 of the global top 15 passenger vehicle manufacturers. Among others, BMW, Delphi, Denso, Fiat Chrysler, Ford, Hino, Honda, Hyundai, Jaguar Land Rover, Kenworth, Komatsu, MAN, Nissan, Peterbilt, Peugeot, Renault, Scania, Toyota, Volkswagen and Volvo Trucks use Exa

30. Exa also serves the HVAC, AEC, power generation, biomedical, and electronics industries.

31. On September 27, 2017, the Board caused Exa to enter into the Merger Agreement, pursuant to which the Company will be acquired by Dassault.

32. The Merger Agreement contains a "no solicitation" provision that prohibits the Individual Defendants from soliciting alternative proposals and severely constrains their ability

to communicate and negotiate with potential buyers who wish to submit or have submitted unsolicited alternative proposals.

33. Further, the Company must promptly advise Dassault of any proposals or inquiries received from other parties.

34. Moreover, the Merger Agreement contains a restrictive “fiduciary out” provision permitting the Board to withdraw its approval of the Proposed Transaction under extremely limited circumstances, and grants Dassault a “matching right” with respect to any “Superior Proposal” made to the Company.

35. Further, the Merger Agreement provides for a “termination fee” of \$12 million payable by the Company to Dassault if the Individual Defendants cause the Company to terminate the Merger Agreement.

The Solicitation Statement Omits Material Information, Rendering It False and Misleading

36. Defendants filed the Solicitation Statement with the SEC in connection with the Proposed Transaction.

37. The Solicitation Statement omits material information regarding the Proposed Transaction, which renders the Solicitation Statement false and misleading.

38. First, the Solicitation Statement omits material information regarding the analyses performed by the Company’s financial advisor, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated (“Stifel”).

39. With respect to Stifel’s Discounted Cash Flow Analysis, the Solicitation Statement fails to disclose: (i) the terminal value of the Company’s forecasted cash flows; (ii) the inputs and assumptions underlying the discount rates of 13.3% to 15.3%; and (iii) the Company’s net cash.

40. With respect to Stifel's Selected Company Analysis, the Solicitation Statement fails to disclose the individual multiples for the companies observed by Stifel in the analysis.

41. With respect to Stifel's Selected Transactions Analysis, the Solicitation Statement fails to disclose the individual multiples for the transactions observed by Stifel in the analysis.

42. When a banker's endorsement of the fairness of a transaction is touted to shareholders, the valuation methods used to arrive at that opinion as well as the key inputs and range of ultimate values generated by those analyses must also be fairly disclosed.

43. The omission of this material information renders the Solicitation Statement false and misleading, including, *inter alia*, the following section of the Solicitation Statement: "The Solicitation or Recommendation."

44. Second, the Solicitation Statement omits material information regarding potential conflicts of interest of the Company's officers and directors.

45. Specifically, the Solicitation Statement fails to disclose the timing and nature of all communications regarding future employment and directorship of Exa's officers and directors, including who participated in all such communications.

46. Communications regarding post-transaction employment during the negotiation of the underlying transaction must be disclosed to stockholders. This information is necessary for stockholders to understand potential conflicts of interest of management and the Board, as that information provides illumination concerning motivations that would prevent fiduciaries from acting solely in the best interests of the Company's stockholders.

47. The omission of this material information renders the Solicitation Statement false and misleading, including, *inter alia*, the following sections of the Solicitation Statement: (i)

“The Solicitation or Recommendation”; and (ii) “Past Contacts, Transactions, Negotiations and Agreements.”

48. The above-referenced omitted information, if disclosed, would significantly alter the total mix of information available to Exa’s stockholders.

COUNT I

(Claim for Violation of Section 14(e) of the 1934 Act Against Defendants)

49. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

50. Section 14(e) of the 1934 Act states, in relevant part, that:

It shall be unlawful for any person to make any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state any material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they are made, not misleading . . . in connection with any tender offer or request or invitation for tenders[.]

51. Defendants disseminated the misleading Solicitation Statement, which contained statements that, in violation of Section 14(e) of the 1934 Act, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, omitted to state material facts necessary to make the statements therein not misleading.

52. The Solicitation Statement was prepared, reviewed, and/or disseminated by defendants.

53. The Solicitation Statement misrepresented and/or omitted material facts in connection with the Proposed Transaction as set forth above.

54. By virtue of their positions within the Company and/or roles in the process and the preparation of the Solicitation Statement, defendants were aware of this information and their duty to disclose this information in the Solicitation Statement.

55. The omissions in the Solicitation Statement are material in that a reasonable shareholder will consider them important in deciding whether to tender their shares in connection

with the Proposed Transaction. In addition, a reasonable investor will view a full and accurate disclosure as significantly altering the total mix of information made available.

56. Defendants knowingly or with deliberate recklessness omitted the material information identified above in the Solicitation Statement, causing statements therein to be materially incomplete and misleading.

57. By reason of the foregoing, defendants violated Section 14(e) of the 1934 Act.

58. Because of the false and misleading statements in the Solicitation Statement, plaintiff and the Class are threatened with irreparable harm.

59. Plaintiff and the Class have no adequate remedy at law.

COUNT II

(Claim for Violation of 14(d) of the 1934 Act Against Defendants)

60. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

61. Section 14(d)(4) of the 1934 Act states:

Any solicitation or recommendation to the holders of such a security to accept or reject a tender offer or request or invitation for tenders shall be made in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Commission may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.

62. Rule 14d-9(d) states, in relevant part:

Any solicitation or recommendation to holders of a class of securities referred to in section 14(d)(1) of the Act with respect to a tender offer for such securities shall include the name of the person making such solicitation or recommendation and the information required by Items 1 through 8 of Schedule 14D-9 (§ 240.14d-101) or a fair and adequate summary thereof[.]

Item 8 requires that directors must “furnish such additional information, if any, as may be necessary to make the required statements, in light of the circumstances under which they are made, not materially misleading.”

63. The Solicitation Statement violates Section 14(d)(4) and Rule 14d-9 because it omits the material facts set forth above, which renders the Solicitation Statement false and/or misleading.

64. Defendants knowingly or with deliberate recklessness omitted the material information set forth above, causing statements therein to be materially incomplete and misleading.

65. The omissions in the Solicitation Statement are material to plaintiff and the Class, and they will be deprived of their entitlement to make a fully informed decision with respect to the Proposed Transaction if such misrepresentations and omissions are not corrected prior to the expiration of the Tender Offer.

66. Plaintiff and the Class have no adequate remedy at law.

COUNT III

(Claim for Violation of Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act Against the Individual Defendants and Dassault)

67. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

68. The Individual Defendants and Dassault acted as controlling persons of Exa within the meaning of Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as officers and/or directors of Exa and participation in and/or awareness of the Company's operations and/or intimate knowledge of the false statements contained in the Solicitation Statement filed with the SEC, they had the power to influence and control and did influence and control, directly or indirectly, the decision making of the Company, including the content and dissemination of the various statements that plaintiff contends are false and misleading.

69. Each of the Individual Defendants and Dassault was provided with or had unlimited access to copies of the Solicitation Statement alleged by plaintiff to be misleading prior to and/or shortly after these statements were issued and had the ability to prevent the issuance of the statements or cause them to be corrected.

70. In particular, each of the Individual Defendants had direct and supervisory involvement in the day-to-day operations of the Company, and, therefore, is presumed to have had the power to control and influence the particular transactions giving rise to the violations as alleged herein, and exercised the same. The Solicitation Statement contains the unanimous recommendation of the Individual Defendants to approve the Proposed Transaction. They were thus directly connected with and involved in the making of the Solicitation Statement.

71. Dassault also had direct supervisory control over the composition of the Solicitation Statement and the information disclosed therein, as well as the information that was omitted and/or misrepresented in the Solicitation Statement.

72. By virtue of the foregoing, the Individual Defendants and Dassault violated Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act.

73. As set forth above, the Individual Defendants and Dassault had the ability to exercise control over and did control a person or persons who have each violated Section 14(a) of the 1934 Act and Rule 14a-9, by their acts and omissions as alleged herein. By virtue of their positions as controlling persons, these defendants are liable pursuant to Section 20(a) of the 1934 Act.

74. As a direct and proximate result of defendants' conduct, plaintiff and the Class are threatened with irreparable harm.

75. Plaintiff and the Class have no adequate remedy at law.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for judgment and relief as follows:

- A. Enjoining defendants and all persons acting in concert with them from proceeding with, consummating, or closing the Proposed Transaction;
- B. In the event defendants consummate the Proposed Transaction, rescinding it and setting it aside or awarding rescissory damages;
- C. Directing the Individual Defendants to file a Solicitation Statement that does not contain any untrue statements of material fact and that states all material facts required in it or necessary to make the statements contained therein not misleading;
- D. Declaring that defendants violated Sections 14(e), 14(d), and 20(a) of the 1934 Act, as well as Rule 14a-9 promulgated thereunder;
- E. Awarding plaintiff the costs of this action, including reasonable allowance for plaintiff's attorneys' and experts' fees; and
- F. Granting such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

Dated: October 17, 2017

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